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STATE FOR R/MR, I/PP, WHA/BSC, WHA/PDA, INR/IAA, PM, INL STATE FOR  
INR/R/MR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KMDR KPAO OPRC CI

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)

¶1. On January 19, government-owned, editorially independent "La Nacion" (circ. 4,200) carried an opinion column by international pundit Raul Sohr entitled "Chile Humiliates Itself Before the World." Quote:

"Once again Chile postponed the ratification of the International Criminal Court... The parties on the right argue that the ratification would cause friction with the United States... It is clear that the United States will not maintain its policy for too long because it is too costly.... Globalization requires a court capable of judging those responsible for genocide and crimes against humanity.... The existence of the U.S. prison camp in Guantanamo is an affront to all humankind.... It is not sufficient for Washington to say that it is fighting the 'war on terrorism'.... It is a selfish and short-sighted calculation, typical of a misconstrued national interest which has led (the U.S.) to stop a comprehensive and unrestricted support of the ICC...."

KELLY